

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-10, 12, 14-16, 18-20 and 26 have been allowed. Claims 23-25 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected based claim, but were noted to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 21, 24 and 25 have been amended. Claims 23 and 27 have been canceled. Thus, claims 1, 2, 4, 6-10, 12, 14-16, 18-22 and 24-26 are now pending in the present application. Support for the amendment to claim 21 may be found, for example, in canceled claim 23. The amendments to claims 24 and 25 are to correct claim dependency so that these claims do not depend from a canceled claim. Thus, no new matter has been added. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejection in view of the comments presented herein are respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 21, 22 and 27 were rejected as being anticipated by Field (US 4,465,232). Although Applicant does not agree with the rejection, claim 27 has been canceled, and claim 21 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 23. Thus, claim 21 represents claim 23 written in independent form which was acknowledged by the Examiner to be allowable. Since claims 22, 24 and 25 depend on claim 21, they should also be allowable.

In view of the amendments and comments presented above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

CONCLUSION

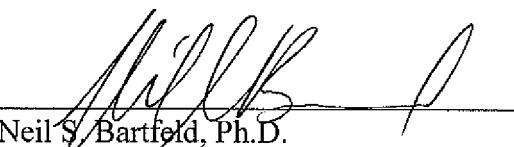
Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance. Should there be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number appearing below.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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